



REMARKS

Status of Claims

Claims 1-48 remain for examination.

Prior Art Rejection

Claims 1, 17, 25, 33 and 41 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Itoga (5,475,613).

Allowable Subject Matter

The examiner has indicated that claims 2-16, 18-24, 26-32, 34-40 and 42-48 contain allowable subject matter. Applicant has amended claim 2 to incorporate therein the limitations of claim 1 and have additionally deleted the paragraph reciting: "a recess enlarging unit for enlarging the selected recess outward by predetermined dimensions". This latter limitation is not believed essential to the allowability of claim 2 and has thus been deleted from claim 2 and inserted by way of an additional dependent claim 49.

A similar procedure has been done to claim 18 (made independent by adding claim 17); claim 26 (made independent by adding claim 25); claim 34 (made independent by adding claim 35); and claim 42 (made independent by adding claim 41). The remaining dependent claims have been amended to be consistent with the new independent claims 2, 18, 26, 34 and 42. Further, claims 6, 8, 10, 20, 22, 24, 28, 30, 32, 36, 38, 40, 44 and 46 have been rewritten in independent form.

Conclusions

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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By David A. Blumenthal

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP
Customer Number: 22428
Telephone: (202) 672-5407
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

David A. Blumenthal
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 26,257